Vol. III. Numb. 136.

The British Apollo:

OR,

Curious Amuſements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are Added the moſt

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domeſtick.

Perform'd by ſome of the Society of GENTLEMEN, Concern'd in the Firſt and Second VOLUME, with the Aſſiſtance of other Ingenious PERSONS.

From **Friday** February 2d. to **Monday** February 5th. 1711.

GENTLEMEN,

Q. *I Deſire your ſpeedy Anſwer to the Query following*, viz.

Whether God made all Things of Nothing? Or was Earth and Water from Eternity void of Forms?

Your humble Servant, *M. C.*

A. That God produced the Matter of this World out of Nothing is as much an Article of our Faith, as that he diſpoſed it into the Preſent Order and Frame that we now ſee it of. For when *Moſes* ſays, that *in the Beginning God created the Heaven and the Earth*, the proper Conception we have of that is the Production or their total Being, ſo that whatſoever Being they had when made, they had no real Exiſtence before they were ſo made. For this manner of Production we uſually term *Creation*, as excluding all Concurrence of any Material Cauſe, and all dependance of any Kind of Subject, that is by which ſomething is made, and not any Thing preceding out of which 'tis made. But becauſe this Word *Creation* is alſo ſometimes uſed Synonimouſly with Words which ſignify any kind of Formation or Production, we ſhall collect the ſame from other clearer Teſtimonies of God in the Scripture. St. *Paul* ſays, *that God quickeneth the Dead, and calleth thoſe Things which be not as though they were*; that is, produceth that which hath a Being out of that which had none. *Through Faith*, ſaith the Author to the *Hebrews*, *we underſtand that the Worlds were framed by the Word of God, ſo that Things which are ſeen, were not made of Things which do appear.* It is remarkable that the Apoſtle here ſaith, that we apprehend the Creation of all Things out of nothing by *Faith*, that is, by a Belief of the Teſtimony of God. If it is then properly ſpeaking a matter of Faith, it cannot be alſo a Point of Science. For the ſame Thing cannot be an Object of Faith and of Science alſo at the ſame Time. And this may ſerve to ſhew the Vanity of thoſe who attempt to demonſtrate the Origination of Matter from Principles of natural Reaſon, if the Vanity of their Attempt is not already ſufficiently expoſed, by the Weakneſs of their Arguments. We grant indeed, that the Arguments which pretend to prove on the contrary the Eternity of Matter may be, and are by them, very plauſibly enough Anſwered even in a rational way. But to demonſtrate the contrary by poſitive Proofs from Reaſon, we eſteem a very difficult if not impoſſible Undertaking. For let any one but impartially examine the Reaſons of the Ancient *Greek* Philoſophers, who argued upon this great Point with admirable Subtilty, both *pro* and *con*, and we believe he wou'd be after all at a Loſs how to determine his Judgment, till inſtructed by the Teſtimonies of God in Holy Scripture.

Q. Gentlemen, *Whether the Miniſters Reading the* Pſalms *himſelf would not be more Edifying, than for the People to bear a Part? If their being Read in the Church be chiefly to praiſe God, Why are they not uſed as in Cathedrals? In Anſwering this you will highly Oblige,*

Your humble Servant, *R. J.*

A. It is not convenient, that what Ancient Cuſtom hath eſtabliſhed ſhou'd give way to Novelty grounded upon no Reaſon, for fear a Door ſhou'd be opened to endleſs Contradictions. But this preſent Method of Reading the *Pſalms*, which is uſed in the Church of *England*, is perhaps as Ancient as the Apoſtles Days, at leaſt prevailed very early in the Church. *Socrates*, the Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtorian, makes *Ignatius* Biſhop of *Antioch* the firſt beginner of it, even under the Apoſtles themſelves. And St. *Baſil*, who introduced it into his Church,

alledges as a Reaſon againſt ſome Heretics that oppoſed him in it, the Example of the Churches of *Egypt*, *Lybia*, *Thebes*, *Paleſtine*, *Phœnicia*, *Syria* and *Meſopotamia*. To the ſame Practice, *Pliny Junior* undoubtedly refers, when in his Letter to the Emperor *Trajan* he ſpeaks thus of the *Chriſtians*; *Affirmabant, hanc fuiſſe Summam vel culpæ ſuæ, vel Erroris, quod eſſent ſoliti ſtato die convenire; carmenque Chriſto, quaſi Deo, dicere ſecum invicem.* In Defence then of this ſo Ancient a Cuſtom we need ſay no more than that no good Objection is made againſt it, and that no other method of reading the *Pſalms* is preferable to it, either for Decency or Edification. For as the admirable *Hooker* obſerves, "If the Prophet *David* did think that the "very meeting of Men together, and their accom-"panying one another to the Houſe of God, "ſhou'd make the Bond of their Love inſoluble, "and tye them in a League of inviolable Amity, "how much more may we judge it reaſonable to "hope, that the like Effects may grow in each of "the People towards other, in them all towards "their Paſtor, and in their Paſtor towards every "of them, between whom there daily and inter-"changeably paſs in the hearing of God himſelf, "& in the Preſence of his Angels, ſo many Heaven'y "Acclamations, Exultations, Provocations, Petitions, "Songs of Comfort, *Pſalms* of Praiſe and Thanks-"giving, in which when the Paſtor beginneth, "they with like Alacrity follow, dividing between "them the Sentences, wherewith they ſtrive "which ſhall much ſhew his own, and ſtir up o-"thers Zeal to the Glory of that God whoſe Name "they Magnify? ——— Theſe interlocutory "Forms of Speech, what are they elſe but moſt "effectual, partly Teſtifications, and partly In-"flammations of all Piety? *Eccl. Pol.* B. V. §. 39. The Reaſon why the *Pſalms* are not Sung in Parochial as in Cathedral Churches, we take to be no other, than that the firſt commonly want the Aſſiſtance of Organs and Perſons skill'd in Muſic to direct the Congregation in a decent and regular Singing of them.

Q. *Why the Proceedings of the Houſe of Commons, on* Saturday, *are dated* Die Sabbati?

A. Every one knows that *Saturday*, was the ancient *Jewiſh Sabbath-Day*, which latter Name is now retained in the Journals of the Houſe of Commons, rather than the former, becauſe the firſt was of Divine, the other of Heatheniſh Impoſition. And were the other Days of the Week diſtinguiſhed alſo by Chriſtian Names, we make no doubt, but they would, for the ſame Reaſon, be uſed, and thoſe Heatheniſh ones, in preſent uſe, rejected.

Q. Gentlemen, *I deſire you, in your next, to give us a perfect, full and comprehenſive Definition of the* Spleen, *and the ſame of the* Ogling-Art, *or* Speaking by the Eyes. *If you pleaſe, pray give us ſome Rule whereby I may know when I my ſelf am troubled with the* Spleen; *and likewiſe, when another body is; and laſtly, if there be any cure for it. I deſire you likewiſe to tell if there be ſuch a Book as the* Eye, *or* Ogling Grammar, *and how, or by what means the Art of ſpeaking by the Eyes is attained.*

From your Reſpectful Servant and Subſcriber,

TRANQUILLA.

A. We have formerly given an Account of the Spleen, to which one of our Indexes will refer you. As for an *Ogling Grammar*, we know of none ſuch, or that the Art is Grammatically taught, but we judge the Theatre the moſt proper School to learn it in; yet that will be in vain, except Nature aſſiſts. We muſt alſo adviſe you, before you ſet your ſelf upon the ſtudy of it, to diveſt your ſelf of all Vanity and Affectation, or you will be very ſubject to miſtake Terms of Art in the Ladies Eyes, and conſtrue that for *Applauſe*, that is intended for a *Sarcaſm*.

Q. Gentlemen, *About two Yeaas ago, it was my Fortune or rather Misfortune, to light on a Young Woman, who through her Inſinuations got ſuch an Aſcendant over my Heart, that I was really in Love with her, and for all I knew it was not for my good I promiſed her Marriage, but in a ſhort time after being ſeparated, which was through my Friends means, who always utterly deteſted the thoughts of it, and debarr'd the Freedom I uſed to have with her, with the conſideration aforeſaid I grew perfectly weari'd from her, and ſhe likewiſe of me. Now, Gentlemen, here lies the Caſe. I was not ſo much in Love with her, but I am now as greatly in Love with another, and I believe there is no Love loſt, for I am ſure of Affections to me, the which I never was of the former, am uneaſy in my Mind for not performing my Promiſe to the former, and my whole deſire is now towards the latter. Your Determination what to do in the Caſe will be infinitely Obliging not only to me, but a great many of your Admirers,*

Yours, *A. B.*

A. The Caſe is very plain, for as you have already firmly engag'd your ſelf to your former Miſtreſs by a Promiſe of Marriage, ſo, without a clear Diſcharge from her, you muſt not preſume to meddle with the latter.

Q. APOLLO, *I deſire you to give me your Sentiments concerning* Melchizedeck, *in the* 17th Chapter *of the* Hebrews, *and you will lay an everlaſting Obligation on your Friend and Servant,*

M. Theophilus.

Gentlemen, *I take great delight in Reading, but have a very bad Memory, ſo that I am little the better for what I read. Your Reaſon why ſome People have better Memories than others; and the Means, how to remedy a bad one, will oblige me to remain, as I ever have been,*

Your Admirer, *M. N.*

A. Both theſe are anſwer'd in our Firſt Volume, lately publiſh'd in Octavo, to which the Index will direct you.

Q. Gentlemen, *There are ſeveral kinds of* Birds, *as the* Swallow, Marten, Cuckoo, &c. *that continue but part of the Year in Light. I deſire to know whether they abſtain from Food, and where they hold their reſidence in the time of their departure Your Anſwer to which will lay a freſh Obligation on*

Gentlemen,

Your muſt humble Servant,

S——l. B——t.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

A. This has been already Anſwered, both in our firſt and third Volume.

POEMS.

POEMS.

The *REPLICATION* of Impatient *S——ON* to the Anſwer of the *BRITISH APOLLO*, to the Second Poetical Query in N°. 78. Vol. III.

I.

Q. *TILL now I thought a Magazine of Wit*
APOLLO'*d been, but to call me a Cit,*
Demonſtrates he's the quite Reverſe of it.

II.

Encomiums in your Praiſe I've often ſent,
My little ſtock of Eloquence have ſpent,
To ſpread your Fame wide as the Firmament.

III.

Proclaimed you Common-Council of the City,
Beg'd y ir Commiſ.ration and your Pity,
But find you neither a Propos *nor Witty.*

IV.

I told you my Druſilla *was unkind,*
I ſent to you to eaſe my troubled Mind,
But from your Oracle no comfort find.

V.

She is, indeed, a Noble, Vertuous Creature,
Hath not one Fault, not one unhandſome Feature,
And ſo you'd ſay had you the Luck to meet her.

VI.

I beg you'd tell me how I might obtain
This Britiſh-Phœnix, *how her Favour gain,*
But like the Charmer, you my Suit diſdain.

VII.

She's a Deſcendant of your Godſhip's Race,
Affronting her, you do your ſelves diſgrace:
A Taylor's Daughter! *How now, Prate-apace.*

VIII.

Your Wit---- Heaven's! provok'd us all to Laughter,
Druſilla, Anglic, *a Taylor's Daughter,*
When all your Brains are come, what can come after?

IX.

" *Here, ſay you, is a* Cit, *tho't prove his Bane*
" *Reſolves, Forſooth, to turn a Country Swain.*
Upon my Word, a moſt Ingenious Strain!

X.

" *And what cares he his Book or Shop to keep,*
" *His Trade is only now in Flocks of Sheep.*
It's pity ſuch a Genius e'er ſhould ſleep.

XI.

But what is pleaſanteſt is yet to follow,
As Trapes, *and* Apes, *and* Pimp, *and* Wench, *let's* [*hollow*
At this, the Billingſgate-Language *of* Apollo:

XII.

But ſince you of my Love a Proof would gain,
Which I profeſs is Real, and Unfeign'd
To you I come to eaſe me of my Pain.

XIII.

You promis'd, Sir, if that I were ſincere,
You to my Suit would lend a Gracious Ear;
O! make me happy, or I'm ne'er the near.

Which, that you would vouchſafe to do, is the humble and hearty Requeſt of your petitioning Subſcriber and devoted Servant,

S—— ON.

I.

A. For all your Praiſe and Eloquence, 'tis true,
Returns of more than common weight are due,
So great a Bard and Orator are you.

II.

But why ſo angry at the Cittiſh Title,
'Tis plain you render Common Councils little,
Your Temper ſhort, and Conſtitution brittle.

III.

But ſince *Druſilla* doth Contempt impart,
To One of ſo much Merit, ſo much Art,
We cannot judge her Vertues worth one F--t.

IV.

Nor have we patience, (pray excuſe the Alluſion)
With Nymphs, who cauſe in Lovers ſuch Con- [*fuſion,*
Lover's whoſe Paſſions ſcorn a Diminution.

V.

And could we but command your Poignant Pen,
We'd ſo depict the Jilting Houſewife's Mien,
She never ſhou'd unravel Hearts again.

VI.

Rally up *Satyr*, *Strephon*, then and write,
Demoliſh Love, and let Revenge indite,
Scourge the bewitching Slut, and kill her quite.

SIR,

THE Letters from Tournay, February the 1ſt. Adviſe that they hear from the Frontier Places of the Enemy's Country, that 'tis forbid to talk there of the late Battle of Villaviciosa;

vicioſa; and that ſome Burghers of Cambray not obſerving that Order have been committed to Priſon; That the 28th paſt, the Regiments of Jacot, Belcaſtle, Katte and Voorſt, arriv'd from Helchin at Blaudin, where they reſted that Night, and the Day following continued their March towards Douay, Aire and Bethune, to reinforce the Garriſons of thoſe Places; That 'tis ſaid this alſo will be augmented by freſh Troops very ſhortly. 'Tis Advis'd from Mons, Feb. 1ſt. That the States of the Province of Haynault have at laſt conſented to the Demand which is made upon them for 90000 Florins, upon Condition the Troops which are in Garriſon in the ſmall Places ſhall not be permitted to go out and Forage in the open Country; That they hear from the Frontiers that the Enemy are to ſend to Spain Freyſins's Regiment of Horſe, the Walloon one of Bournonville, and ſome others; That they continue to provide their Magazines with dry Forrage, that their deſigns be not prevented as they were laſt Year for want of it; That they are alſo employed in Working upon Lines, and in turning the courſe of the Scarpe between Douay and Arras; That 'tis ſaid they will cut down the great Wood of the Abby of St. Eloy, and that they have a deſign to raiſe a Fort near Arras in order to defend the Approaches to that Place. Which is all from Yours, &c.

Juſt Publiſhed.

The Firſt Volume of the *Britiſh Apollo* in 8vo containing above 2000 Anſwers to curious Queſtions in moſt Arts and Sciences, Serious, Comical and Humorous, approved of by many of the moſt Ingenious and Learned of both the Univerſities, and of the Royal-Society. *N. B.* Not one Volume of the firſt Edition, bound, was ſold under 15 *s.* 6 *d.* and great Numbers were called for after all were diſpoſed off. There being but a few left over what was ſubſcribed for. Now to be ſold at 6 *s. per* Book, letter'd on the back, by *J. Mayo*, Printer, over againſt *Water-Lane*, *Fleet-ſtreet*, *S. Clark*, in *Birchin-Lane*, *J. Woodward*, in *Scalding-Alley*, both near the *Royal Exchange*. *J. Morphew*, near *Stationer's-Hall*, Bookſellers, and alſo by moſt Bookſellers in *London*.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

At a Certain Charge.

ON Munday being the 29th of this Inſtant, Subſcriptions will be taken at the Office of Inſurance on Marriage and Births, in the Little-Piazza, Covent-Garden, on the Birth or Baptizing a Child, where any one may be Intituled to 1000, 750, 500, or 250 *l.* In a Month or 6 Weeks, from the Date of their Policy, by way of Weekly Payment and Dividend.

Note, at the ſame place, one Perſon for 17 *s.* 6 *d.* by him paid, will Receive on Thurſday next 60 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.* at the ſame Place is 4 Books on Servants, where any one may be Intituled to 1000, 500, 250, or 100 *l.*

AT the Widow Prat's Coffee Houſe, in Cat-Eaton-Street, between St. Laurance-Churchand the corner of Aldermanbury, is kept a moſt Regular and Faithful Office of Inſurance on Marriages, both by Claims and Weekly Dividends. Wherein Perſons may be admitted upon two Months. And alſo Inſurance upon the Births of Children by Claims, in which may be Enter'd upon Six Weeks. Note, that for theſe Societies Truſtees are Choſen, and ample Security given, and one Perſon will in a few Days for the Expence of 10 *s.* receive 12 *l.* and on Thhurſday the 8th Inſtant, Feb. will be open'd Books of Inſurance on Births at a Certain Charge by Weekly Payment and Contribution, wherein 50 will be taken in upon one Month. At the ſame Place Subſcriptions are taken in upon Menial Servants, for 4, 5, or 6 Months Continuance, in a Place or Service. Propoſals of each are given Gratis at the Office. Where conſtant Attendance is given.

AT the Office of Inſurance on Marriage, in *Belt-Court*, *Fleet-Street*, any Perſon by Paying 2 *s.* for a Policy, Stamps and 2 *s.* towards each Marriage, until their own, or the Marriage of any other Perſon, may ſecure to themſelves 200 *l.* *Note*, tho' this Office began but the 2d of *January*, there are above 1800 Subſcribers, out of which no more than 26 Married this Year, who have received from 12 *l.* to 140 *l.* at the ſmall Charge of 4 *s.* to 12 *s.* the 26 Claimants having paid no more than 14 *l.* for 2500 *l.* which will appear by their Receipts, which may be ſeen at the Office, and the Perſons are all ready and willing to teſtify the Truth hereof: Wherefore 'tis hoped the Proofs which are daily increaſing, will induce all Perſons who conſult their own Intereſt to incourage this which has given ſuch convincing Proofs by regular Payments of its Fairneſs and Advantage. At the ſame Place is a Second Inſurance, where any Perſons paying 5 *s.* for a Policy and Entrance, the 5 *s.* towards each Marriage, may ſecure to themſelves 300 *l.* Propoſals may be had *Gratis*.

FROM the Office of Inſurance on Marriages in King's Head Court, in Pettycoat Lane, next to Fleet Street.

Notice is hereby given, that ſince the Death of Mr. Tho. Edwards late Director of this Office, the ſame is continued by his Widow and Adminiſtratrix, where daily Attendance is given, and Policies delivered out as uſual.

N. B. This Office hath met with ſuch ſucceſs, that above Fourteen hundred Perſons have already ſubſcribed, and it is not doubted but it will be compleat within 5 or 6 Weeks, that Claims will begin to be paid by the 16th Inſtant, the ſaid Mr. Edwards having, before his death, cauſed 12 Truſtees to be choſen at Sadler's-Hall, to whom Security is given, according to the Articles of Settlement, and the ſaid Truſtees are reſolved to ſupport and encourage the ſaid Widow and Adminiſtratrix in this lawful Undertaking.

The Office on Births is in like manner continued, where daily Attendance is given and Policies delivered out as uſual.

HOlman's London Ink-Powder for Records. Moſt Excellent for all Perſons to make their Writing-Ink as black and as ſtrong as they pleaſe. Each Six-penny Paper makes a Pint of the beſt, or Pint and half, or Quart for Shopkeepers common Writing or Marking Ink, only by often ſhaking or ſtirring it in ſo much Rain or River Water; and it amends all weak and pale Ink, or Ink ſpoiled by the Froſt, and Directions to each Paper of Powder, to prevent Ink from Freezing. 'Tis Sold by moſt Stationers, Bookſellers and Haberdaſhers in and about London; and by Shop-keepers in the chiefeſt Cities and Towns in England. And that none may be impoſed on by any falſe Pretenders, Cheats or Counterfeits, this only has been publickly Experienced for many Years, and Patent Granted under the Great Seal of England to Charles Holman in Red-Lion-Street in Southwark, for the making the ſame; where you may have alſo his beſt Ink made for all Valuable Writings, being well Approved in Her Majeſties Offices.

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